

**Unapproved Minutes
Operator Certification Board Meeting
April 9, 2019
Matthew Training Center**

Members Present: Chris Schmit, Dave VanCleave, Ryan Allen, Robin Bobzien, Craig Wagner

Members Absent: Bill Sarringar

Others Present: Rob Kittay-Secretary to the Board; Mark Perry and Paul Faris from SF; and Brad Schmidt and Scott Berg from Bel Brands

Call to Order by Chairperson Van Cleave at 2:00 pm.

Kittay noted that the meeting was being live fed over the internet.

Approval of Agenda: An agenda had been sent previously and was available on-site. Kittay indicated the following changes-For Karl Merbach's reciprocity case, a response has been made by Illinois and Dry Creek Estates and Garden City hearings have been cancelled. Van Cleave wanted to move up the Bel Brands hearing and discussion on eligibility to take exams since those parties were present.

Schmit moved to approve the amended agenda. Bobzien seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes had been emailed previously to the Board members and had been available on the internet. Allen moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Bobzien seconded. Motion passed with Wagner abstaining.

Preliminary Hearing: Bel Brands in Brookings-Brad Schmidt and Scott Berg from Bel Brands were present to represent the system. This is a Class III WW pre-treatment facility. It is currently run by the Stover Group. Eric Johnson from the Stover Group has taken the Class III WW exam twice with scores of 47% and 41%. He is going to take the exam again in Huron on April 11, 2019. It now appears that the Veolia Company is taking over operations as of May 1, 2019. They have three operators applying for reciprocity at this meeting.

Schmit moved to hold the Steve Morgan reciprocity case at this time. Bobzien seconded. Motion passed.

Stephen Morgan-He holds an Indiana Class D and Class IV Wastewater certificates. These certificates require a college degree and five years of total experience. Bobzien moved to grant an SD Class IV WW certificate. Schmit seconded. Motion passed.

Taking Exams Early: Mark Perry and Paul Faris from Sioux Falls were present. They would like operators to be able to take Class II-IV exams up to one year prior to obtaining full eligibility. This would be similar to the current practice for the Class I exams. They discussed motivation for operators to continue to climb the certification levels, exam session and class availability, and the need for Class III/IV certified operators. Kittay indicated that this would need to be a regulatory change. The public hearing could be held at the next Board meeting in September in Pierre. Van

Cleave moved to recommend that DENR pursue this regulation change. Wagner seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business: A contract for Alpena had been tabled at the last meeting. Schmit moved to bring the Alpena contract issue off of the table. Allen seconded. Motion passed.

The city needs a Class I Wastewater Treatment operator as the population equivalent (PE) of the waste stream from Jack Link is over 500 people. The RWS's intended operator is now certified as a wastewater operator. Bobzien moved to approve the contract. Schmit seconded. Motion passed.

Reciprocity: Karl Merbach-He holds an Illinois Class 1 WW certificate. This certificate requires high school graduation and eight years of experience. Bobzien moved to grant an SD Class IV WW certificate. Schmit seconded. Motion passed.

Ted Stover-He holds an Oklahoma Class A Wastewater Works certificate. This certificate requires high school graduation and five years of experience. Schmit moved to grant an SD Class II WW certificate. Bobzien seconded. Motion passed.

Dennis Burdge-He holds a Tennessee Class A Wastewater certificate. This certificate requires high school graduation and one year of experience. Schmit moved to grant an SD Class I WW certificate. Allen seconded. Motion passed.

James Waldroup-He holds an Indiana Class C Wastewater certificate. This certificate requires high school graduation and three years of experience. Bobzien moved to grant an SD Class II WW certificate. Schmit seconded. Motion passed.

Michael Giffen-He holds a South Carolina Class A Wastewater certificate. This certificate requires high school graduation and four years of experience. Allen moved to grant an SD Class II WW certificate. Bobzien seconded. Motion passed.

Final Hearings: Dupree-The system lacks Class I Water Distribution, WW Treatment, and WW Collection certificates. They have been without a certified operator since at least July 2017. Only two exams have been attempted since the last board meeting. Justin Knife and Andrew Clown each failed the Stabilization Pond exam w/ scores of 50% and 32% respectively. Schmit moved for DENR to pursue enforcement. Allen seconded. Motion passed.

Preliminary Hearings: Eureka-The system lacks a Class I WW Treatment certificate. They have passed the WD I and WWC I exams. Glen Olene is scheduled to take the Stabilization Pond exam in Huron on April 11, 2019. Schmit moved to hold a final hearing at the next board meeting. Allen seconded. Motion passed.

Henry-The system lacks a Class I WD certificate. Toni Goodall took the exam five times without success with scores ranging from 60% - 69%. Henry has now hired Mark O'Neill as of January 1, 2019. He has not taken the exam as of yet. Bobzien moved to hold a final hearing at the next board meeting. Schmit seconded. Motion passed.

Horseshoe Acres-The system lacks a Class I WD certificate. Ezra Hays passed the SWT I exam on January 25, 2018 and has not attempted the WD exam. He is scheduled to take the WD exam

in Huron on April 11, 2019. Schmit moved to hold a final hearing at the next board meeting. Allen seconded. Motion passed.

Tri-Valley Schools- The system lacks a Class I WW Treatment certificate. Rod Nelson took the SP I exam on November 15, 2018 and failed with a score of 50%. The school has submitted a contract with Ryan Fods to run the system. Bobzien moved to hold a final hearing at the next board meeting. Allen seconded. There was discussion about the submitted contract in that it did not contain weekly on-site visits. Kittay asked what an operator would do each week at a total retention pond. Motion passed.

Contract Approvals: Centennial Vista/Pat Hasson-The system needs a Small Water Treatment and a Class I Water Distribution operator. Schmit moved to approve. Bobzien seconded. Motion passed.

Prairie Haven Homes/Ed Striebel-This is a new community water system and requires Small Water Treatment System and Class I Water Distribution certificates. Schmit moved to approve. Allen seconded. Motion passed.

Tri-Valley Schools-This contract did not meet the following regulation-

74:21:02:69. Contract operator qualifications. A contract operator under § 74:21:02:67 must meet the following criteria:

(4) Be on-site at least once a week or more as considered necessary by the board based on the technical nature of the system to be operated.

Schmit moved to not approve the contract as there was no provision for a weekly on-site visit. Bobzien seconded. Motion passed.

Gayville/Chuck Flemming-This town is served by Clay RWS and requires a Class I Water Distribution certificate. Allen moved to approve. Wagner seconded. Motion passed.

Status of Certification: The Board reviewed the latest status information on systems without certified operators. Kittay updated the Board. Schmit moved to hold preliminary hearings at the next board meeting for the following-

System	Lacking Certification	Comment
Boondocks	SWT I	
Boulder Canyon CC	SWT I	
Country Store at the Forks	SWT I	
Jefferson	WWC I	
Ramona	SWT I/WD I	
Eden	WD I	Lack of Contact Hours
Mission Hill	WD I	Lack of Contact Hours
Walnut Park	SWT I/ WD I	Lack of Contact Hours
Reynold's Court	SWT I/WD I	Lack of Contact Hours
Lourie Lane Homes	WD I	Lack of Contact Hours
Lewie's Burgers & Brews	SWT I	Lack of Contact Hours
Utica	WD I	Lack of Contact Hours

Camp Rimrock	SWT I	Lack of Contact Hours
High Country Guest Ranch	SWT I	Failed to Renew
High Country-RS East	SWT I	Failed to Renew
Crooked Creek Camp-Old	SWT I	Failed to Renew
Crooked Creek Camp-New	SWT I	Failed to Renew
Mystic Motel-Custer	SWT I	Lack of Contact Hours
Ponderosa MHR	WD I	Lack of Contact Hours

Allen seconded. Motion passed,

Public Comment Period: This is now a requirement of public meetings as of the most recent legislative action. There was no-one present from the public at this time.

Other Business-Schmit and Bobzien's terms on Board expire on June 1, 2019. Kittay inquired if they would like to be reappointed. Both indicated that they would like to continue on the Board.

Some members said they would like to see the exam passing statistics. Kittay said that a graph would be sent to them.

Next Meeting-The next meeting will be in conjunction with the SDWWA Conference in Pierre on September 10, 2019 at 2:00 pm at the Matthew Training Center.

Schmit moved for adjournment. Allen seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Rob Kittay

April 15, 2019

Rob Kittay

Date